

R E M A R K S

Applicant's new claims, which have been added to the above-identified allowed application reflect the fact that in one aspect the present invention is seen to include:

a light beam which is split into a plurality of light beams each having a polarized state different from the others and each directed to a relatively moving object to be detected;
wherein beams reflected by the object are combined and split again by a polarizing beam splitter into a plurality of light beams which are polarized in different directions; and
wherein a detection circuit detects a relative displacement of the moving object based on the light beams split by the beam splitter.

From these facts it will be appreciated that it is not necessary to specify an order of splitting and focusing, wherefore the new claims simply require an "illuminating system" rather than two separate elements. Also, from the analysis set forth above it will be appreciated that it is not necessary to convert "a linearly polarized light" wherefore that term is not included in the new claims.

In summary, Applicant submits that new Claims 21-32 are all allowable for the same reasons as the already allowed claims.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
John A. Krause
Registration No. 24,613

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-3801
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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